

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 125313
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 COME-00 DODE-00 NSF-02
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ARA/AND/C - DAVE COX
-----010448Z 014114 /15

R 312216Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 125313

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TBIO, CO

SUBJECT: R/V GYRE CLEARANCE REQUEST, 11-20 AUG 1977

1. R/V GYRE, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY TEXAS A AND M UNIVERSITY AND FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AND OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT RESEARCH OFF THE MOUTH OF THE MAGDALENA RIVER. THE RESEARCH IS DESIGNED TO INVESTIGATE THREE INTER-RELATED PROBLEMS: (1) THE TRANSPORT AND CHEMICAL REACTIONS OF SILICA ENTERING THE CARIBBEAN THROUGH THE MAGDALENA RIVER; (2) THE AGGREGATION AND TRANSPORT OF CLAY PARTICLES; AND (3) THE VERTICAL FLUX OF PARTICULATE MATTER IN THE FORM OF FECAL PELLETS. THE MAGDALENA RIVER IS PARTICULARLY SUITABLE FOR INVESTIGATIONS OF THIS KIND OF TRANSPORT AND INTERACTION, SINCE THE RIVER IS A HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE SEDIMENT SOURCE AND ITS DELTA IS VERY ACTIVE, WITH EGRESS DIRECTLY INTO THE DEEP PORTIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN.

2. SINCE THE PROCESSES ARE BEING INVESTIGATED FROM THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 125313

RIVER ITSELF TO DEEP WATER, SAMPLING NEEDS TO BE DONE COMMENCING NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER AT ABOUT 100 METERS DEPTH, AND CONTINUING INTO DEPTHS OF ABOUT 4,000 METERS NORTH OF THE DELTA. TO DETERMINE THE COURSE AND FATE OF THE PARTICLES, SEVERAL SORTS OF SAMPLING ARE REQUIRED:

OF THE WATER ITSELF; OF THE SEDIMENTS ON THE BOTTOM; AND

OF THE PARTICULATE MATTER IN THE WATER COLUMN. SEVERAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS ARE PLANNED TO BE DONE CONCURRENTLY DURING THE FIELD WORK. THESE ARE TAKING SAMPLES OF THE WATER ITSELF, AND ANALYZING IT FOR CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS OF THE WATER AND OF THE SUSPENDED PARTICLES; SAMPLING OF THE SEA-BED SEDIMENTS, AND CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF ITS CONTENTS; AND SAMPLING OF FECAL MATERIAL WHICH MAY BE SETTLING THROUGH THE WATER COLUMN. THE FIRST WILL INVOLVE LOWERING SAMPLING BOTTLES AND ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT OVER THE SIDE AT A NUMBER OF STATIONS; THE SECOND, CORE SAMPLES OF THE SEDIMENTS; AND THE THIRD, DRIFTING BUOYS WITH SEDIMENT TRAPS SUSPENDED BELOW THEM AT DEPTH IN THE WATER.

3. THE R-SEARCH IS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF DRS. PETER BETZER, KENDALL CARDER, AND KENT FANNING, ALL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA. SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS DON ARMAND WITH A CREW OF 12 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 19. BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR TWO COLOMBIAN PARTICIPANTS AND ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

4. CAPITAN GUSTAVO ANGEL MEIJIA, PRESIDENTE, COMISION COLOMBIANA DE OCEANOGRAFIA, HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY T. K. TREADWELL OF TEXAS A AND M UNIVERSITY CONCERNING THE CONDUCT OF THE CRUISE. TREADWELL SUGGESTED THAT MEIJIA MAY WANT TO NOMINATE SOMEONE TO PARTICIPATE ON THE CRUISE.

5. R/V GYRE IS 295 GROSS TONS, 174 FT. LONG AND HAS A 12 FT. DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KJCC AND SHIP MONITORS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 125313

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES.

6. A PORT CALL IS PLANNED AT BARRANQUILLA ON 11-12 AUG 77 WHICH WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE SHIP'S AGENT (UNKNOWN). A SHIP'S TRACK IS BEING POUCHED.

7. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR R/V GYRE TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN GOC TERRITORIAL WATERS AND CONTINENTAL SHELF DURING 11-20 AUGUST 1977. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTINENTAL SHELF, GYRE R/V, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, RIVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE125313
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WERB:MJB
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Film Number: D770194-0432
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 2312812
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